THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): The value of a rupee, measured as a reciprocale of consumer price index (CPI) for industrial workers treating 1971 as base year, was 17 pause in December 1991 (latest available).

Operation of SBI Factors and Commercial Services Limited

1642. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to extend the operation of SBI Factors and Commercial Services Limited throughout the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and
(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) State Bank of India (SBI) have reported that at present there is no proposal to extend the operations of SBI Factors and Commercial Services Pvt. Limited throughout the country.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) With a view to ensure efficiency and economy of operations, SBI Factors and Commercial Services Pvt. Limited proposes to operate in the Western Zone for the time being.

Survey on Problems of Handloom Weavers in Maharashtra

1643. SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have made any survey about the problems of handloom weavers in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The major problem experienced by the handloom weavers in the country including Maharashtra is the high yarn prices. Government is constantly reviewing the price situation and has taken corrective steps. The State sector and cooperative sector spinning mills have been directed to augment the production of crucial counts of yarn and exercise restraint in prices. The National Textile Corporation (NTC) has been asked to readjust their production plan to augment production of hank yarn of 40s and below where the price rise has affected the handloom weavers the most. NHDC also advised to augment yarn supplies. The Chief Ministers of States have been requested to monitor the production of yarn by Cooperative/State sector mills, and to hold regular State Level reviews regarding supply, prices and distribution of hank yarn. The Chief Ministers have also been advised to impress upon the District Collectors to organise regular checking of the stocks and selling prices of yarn dealers in the districts, with a view to prevent hoarding of yarn.

Promotion of Managers in MMTC

1644. DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether 40 point roster for promotion of Managers has been discontinued by Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation;

(b) if so, since when and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any clarification was sought from Bureau of Public Enterprises (BPE) in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken thereon?